श्री अनन्त गंगाराम गीते: बाढ़ वाला भी शुरू होगा।

श्री दारा सिंह चौहान: सभापति जी, आज पूरे देश में बिजली की समस्या है। पन बिजली विद्युत से हम जो बिजली पैदा करते हैं वह लोगों को सस्ती मिलती है। आम लोगों को बिजली सस्ती दी जाए, इसके लिए मंत्री जी पन बिजली परियोजना को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए क्या-क्या कदम उठाना चाह रहे हैं और कौन-कौन सी योजनाएं बनाई हैं, क्या इसका उत्तर देने की कृपा करेंगे?

श्री अनन्त गंगाराम गीते: सभापति जी, इस प्रश्न का उत्तर मैं पहले ही जमना देवी जी को दे चुका हूं।

श्री सभापति: आप उन्हें भी भिजवा दें।

श्री अनन्त गंगाराम गीते: सभापति जी, मैं निश्चित रूप से भिजवा दूंगा।

Losses suffered by NDMC

*249. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NDMC suffers staggering loss of Rs. 3.84 crore annually;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether abnormal delay in revision of licence fee, improper maintenance of records and vital information has become the practice there;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Chief Auditor of New Delhi Municipal Council in her Audit Report for the year ended March, 2000 had, *inter alia*, pointed out that the Council had in respect of 569 stalls transferred from the Enforcement Department to the Estate Department sustained a loss of

Rs. 3.84 crore on account of non-implementation of the two Resolutions passed in September, 1979 and March, 1986 in the matter of revision of license fee. The New Delhi Municipal Council have reported that these observations are under examination.

(c) to (e) There has been some delay in revision of license fee and lack of proper maintenance of records. However, the Council have initiated action to computerize the records relating to demand and collection of license fee in order to streamline the system.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, various civic amenities projects of the NDMC are pending due to shortage of funds. I would like to quote one paragraph of the Statesman dated 17th July. It states, "The non-recovery of outstanding dues from 819 occupants has caused a loss of Rs. 376 crores to the NDMC." I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware that various undertakings of the Government of India in Delhi like Akbar Hotel, Loknayak Bhawan, Super Bazar, etc., are very heavy defaulters. Why are they not giving the dues which they have to pay to the NDMC?

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Sir, I am aware of the arrear of dues which the NDMC has to recover from various buildings owned by different institutions. The hon. Member has asked a specific question about Hotel Ashok. I would like to inform the hon. Member that Hotel Ashok is now called Akbar Bhavan. It is owned by the NDMC. It has been licensed mainly to the Ministry of External Affairs, and some portion of it has been licensed to a private party. So, various buildings have been given to the Central Government. As per the laws of the NDMC, they are charging rent, or, sometimes they don't charge.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Sir, the hon. Minister has not replied about the huge arrears of rent which are pending from various institutions. Huge arrears of rent have not been paid by the Akbar Hotel, where the Ministry of External Affairs is the tenant.

Sir, my second supplementary is this. Various foreign embassies in Delhi are not paying the charges because they have got reciprocal arrangements with the Government of India. They don't pay here and the Indian Embassies or the Indian Consulates don't pay in those countries.

In other countries, the Union Government, the Federal Government, would compensate the civic amenity taxes. Will you consider the same system here also?

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: The present system over here is we don't charge anything from any embassy.

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Sir, I would like to know whether the local bodies, like NDMC or other municipal corporations, can charge taxes as per their determination from the Central Government establishments or not. Sir, this is an important question, which pertains to the Centre-State financial relations also.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: If they charge, the Central Government pays the fees of the NDMC that are charged to the Central Government, which is according to the rules and regulations.

Revival of NTC Mills

*250. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of the revival of NTC Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Madras (APKK&M) Mills;

(b) the date on which the revival period expires as per the BIFR order;

(c) whether Government propose to fulfil its commitment in the BIFR revival package order within the stipulated period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken for the payment under VRS to surplus workers in the reviving mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) In accordance with the provisions of rehabilitation scheme sanctioned by BIFR, 10 viable mills are made fully functional and 6 unviable mills are closed after giving VRS to the employees. Sale of surplus land and machinery has started.